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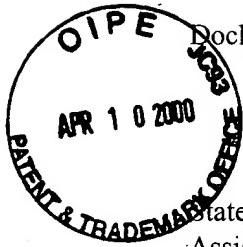
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Docket No.: 10690/101683



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below.

Dated: April 6, 2000

Anne Marie Mitchell  
Anne Marie Mitchell

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of : )  
Berend Houwen, et al. ) Examiner: G. Gabel  
Serial No.: 09/058,323 ) Art Unit: 1641  
Filed: April 9, 1998 )  
For: **PROCESS FOR DISCRIMINATING**  
**AND COUNTING ERYTHROBLASTS** )  
New York, NY  
April 6, 2000

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION INCLUDING AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 28, 1999, which sets forth a shortened statutory period of three months for response. However, due to an error made by the Examiner in the office action, the PTO re-issued the September 28, 1999 office action with an one month statutory period for response. Accordingly, this response is filed timely upon mailing with an executed Certificate of Mailing on or before April 28, 2000. 37 CFR 1.8.